(a) whether the use of LPG for motor vehicles will be permitted;
(b) if so, by when; and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) LPG is recognised as an environment friendly transportation fuel. Therefore, with a view to promote the use of LPG as automotive fuel in the country, in a safe manner, several regulations are required. The use of LPG as automotive fuel will commence as soon as amendments in the Motor Vehicles Act etc. is made.

LPG dealers in Guwahati

385. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of LPG dealers in Guwahati district of Assam and number of connections with each of them;

(b) whether it is a fact that the most of those dealers are black-marketing LPG cylinders by showing the shortage of LPG; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) As on 1.10.99 there were 2S LPG distributorships with 2,37,987 customers in Kamrup District which includes Guwahati in Assam.

(b) and (c) Recently no complaint of black marketing of LPG has been received by the Oil Companies against the above distributors. Complaints were, however, received during last year against two distributors about diversion of refills, and action was taken against them by the oil Companies.

Production and Demand of Petroleum Products

386. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present gap in the production and demand of petrol, kerosene and other petroleum products in the country and extent of their imports made during** the last five years and till date;

(b) the details of production of petroleum products during Eighth Plan; and

(c) the details of total investment proposed in the petroleum products in the country during the Ninth Plan particularly in the NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The information is given in Statement-I. *(See* below)

(b) The information is given in Statement-II. *(See* below)

(c) The outlay for Ninth Plan for the Petroleum and Natural Gas Sector is Rs. 74,014.18 crores of which Rs. 27,603.00 crores is for Exploration & Production and Rs. 46,411.18 crores for Refining and Marketing. This, interalia, includes outlay/ investment plan made for North-Eastern Region. Outlay/investment plan is made for the country as a whole and not area/region specific.

Statement-I

Production, Consumption and Imports of Petroleum Products

('000' Tonnes)

Item	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99*	1999-(Apr-
Production®	54353	56795	60785	63096	66388	36490
Petrol	4129	4462	4704	4849	5573	2963
Kerosene	5261	5267	6236	6701	5341	2397
Others	44963	47066	49845	51546	55474	31130
Consumptio	65487	72518	77224	79838	83566	44477
Petrol	4141	4679	4955	5182	5511	2903
Kerosene	8964	9317	9646	9878	10583	5333
Others	52382	58522	62623	64778	67472	36241
Imports$	13951	20335	20265	19530	18780	8349
Petrol	-	435	449	331	251	Neg.
Kerosene	4240	5001	4279	3812	5823	3321
Others	9711	14899	15537	15387	12706	5028

* : Provisional.

@ : Includes LPG Production from natural gas.

@@ : Excludes consumption through private imports.

$: Excludes import by private parties.

** Negligible.

Statement II

Production of Petroleum Products (during Vlllth Plan)

('000' Tonnes)

PRODUCTS	1992-93	1993-94	1094-95	1995-96	1996-97
			(a) From Crude Oil		
1. Light Distillates of which	9966	10118	11625	12433	12883
LPG	1249	1314	1432	1539	1598
Mogas	3709	3843	4129	4462	4704
Naphtha	4586	4666	5662	5975	6123
Others	422	295	402	457	458
2. Middle Distillates of which	27004	27799	28695	29941	32423
Kerosene	5199	5266	5261	5267	6236
ATF/RTF/Jet A-l	1636	1788'	1968	2127	2119
HSD	18289	18809	19593	20661	22202
LDO	1453	1474	1364	1351	1286
Others	427	462	509	535	580
3. Heavy Ends of which	13389	13167	12607	12707	13698
Furnace Oil	6358	6163	5728	5351	5980
LSHS/HHS/RFO	4044	4141	4094	4228	4318
Lube Oils	533	489	504	633	619
Bitumen	1862	1874	1845	2032	2283
Petroleum Coke	221	233	259	256	246
Paraffin wax	47	45	43	43	31
Other Waxes	51	47	58	63	56
Others	278	175	77	101	165
Total (1+2+3)	50359	51084	52927	55081	59005
			(b) From Natural		
LPG	1323	1385	1426	1714	1780